

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

February 20, 2002 LR 6, 292

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR JANSSEN: ...in Thoroughbred horse racing. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, members of the Legislature, the two initiatives that are going to be up before the people, should they get enough signatures, are so bad in my opinion, and the two things that we're talking about right now are so much better than those things that I'm hoping that this Legislature, whether you adopt the version that allows slot machines at racetracks, or whether you exclude that amendment and just do the interdiction zone, I hope you will feel good about either one of them, whichever way the Legislature decides. Because I still think, given the alternatives that have been put before us, that what we're doing is better than what is otherwise being proposed to the people. For myself, I...I'm not going to vote for racetracks. The concept of LR 292, that I committed to, was a concept that said we're not going to bring a new form of gambling closer to populations that are not already exposed. And I want to stay with that commitment. If you bring slot machines to Grand Island and Lincoln and other places, you are bringing gambling, for better or for worse, another form of gambling, closer to portions of the population that have not heretofore been...had the kind of access that, for example, Omaha has by driving a couple of miles across the river. Now you may want to do that. I mean there are rural senators here, and you heard from Grand Island, they are saying that their people would like to see these slot machines in these locations. If that's what the people want, then perhaps that's what we should do. And I can still make a distinction in the sense that what you're asking for, for the racetracks, are slot machines, they're not the full-blown casino gambling. So I suppose in one sense you haven't brought total casino gambling to new portions of the population. There is that distinction. But I would like to say that I do not believe that interdiction casinos within a mile of a border, will have any further deteriorating effect on any racetrack. I don't see the logic of that whatsoever. The racetracks were hurt when the casinos were